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in Ceylon are concerned, will this Government urge the Central Government that there might be replacement of the present High Commissioner by a person from South India?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"I do not think the presumption is correct."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—"இலங்கையில் தாற்காலிக அனுமதிச் சீட்டுகளுடன் இருக்கக்கூடிய ஏராளமான கடைச்சிப்பந்திகளும், வீட்டு வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய சிப்பந்திகளும் வெளியேறக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்படும். அதற்கு என்ன ஏற்பாடுகளைச் சர்க்கார் செய்யப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அறிவிப்பார்களா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"That position has not arisen at all and if it is likely to arise, we are likely to know it beforehand. Then we will make all necessary arrangements."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—"The Hon. Minister said that the Central Government are now under correspondence with our Government. If it is so, may I know why a copy of the agreement reached between the Ceylon Government and the Union Government has not been communicated to this Government still?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"After all, all the provisions are now well known to everybody and I do not think it is necessary to get a copy of it."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—"During the debate we had at the last session regarding the Ceylon problem, several points were raised by hon. Members and one of the points raised was that the present High Commissioner in Ceylon was not doing effective work and he should be recalled by the Central Government. May I know whether this Government have received any reply from the Central Government regarding that point?"

MR. SPEAKER :—"The main question is about citizenship. The hon. Member wants to know what had taken place after the debate on the 'Ceylon Problem' held sometime ago. The High Commissioner is involved in the hon. Member's present question. I shall pass on to the next question. It is outside the main question."

Closure of the Talikulam Branch of the Rajah Beedi Factory, South Malabar.

* 1172 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Rajah Beedi Company of Talikulam in Ponnani taluk, South Malabar, was locked out on 13th February 1954, when there was a conciliation pending before the Labour Officer; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter with reference to section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Talikulam Branch was closed on 13th February 1954, but there was no conciliation pending before the Labour Officer at the time, and as such there was no contravention of section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act.

" (b) Does not arise."

* 1173 Q.—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Talikulam Branch of the Rajah Beedi Factory, South Malabar, was closed on 13th February 1954, when there was a conciliation pending before the Labour Officer;

(b) whether lay-off wages or compensation dut to workers as per Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act has been paid to the workers; and

(c) if not, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The factory was closed on 13th February 1954. But there was no conciliation pending before the Labour Officer at the time.

" (b) No.

" (c) The Labour Officer has advised the Union leaders to file claim petitions for recovery of gratuity and notice pay."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" The Hon. Minister giving the information said that there was no conciliation pending. Actually a conciliation was fixed for 11th February and the management refused to attend the conciliation proceedings. Again another conciliation was put on another date in March and then again the management refused to attend the proceedings. So the information given by the Government, I beg to submit through you, Mr. Speaker, is wrong. Will the Government, therefore, enquire into the matter and see that proper proceedings are taken in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I may tell the hon. Member that there would be no conciliation unless conciliation starts. That was my answer. According to the report I have with me, the union labour leader told the Labour Officer on 1st April 1954 that inasmuch as there was no prospect of this branch being re-opened, they would be satisfied if the company paid the workers of Talikulam Branch one month's wages and the gratuity as per the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act. Retrenchment of persons and other matters were, therefore, not included in the reference for adjudication but only the payment of bonus for 1952–53. Since the Rajah Company declined to pay gratuity and notice pay to the workers of its branch at Talikulam, the Labour Officer has asked the union leaders to file claim petitions for recovery of gratuity and notice pay."

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Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar :—" Because the present enactment does not provide for compulsion of management or other party to appear before conciliation officers and that is why many of these managements are truculent and refractory when disputes are sent for conciliation proceedings, will the Government pass some legislation by which conciliation could be more successfully and effectively effected by more coercive pressure being made available at the hands of the labour officer by which he can compel the management to attend the conciliation proceedings and talk it over the table whether they agree to it or not? "

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam :—" I am glad that the hon. Member being himself a lawyer appreciates the position. I would also put it to him to make a specific proposal so that I may examine it in consultation with the Government of India."

Sri S. C. C. Anthony Pillai :—" Sir, it was specifically put to the Hon. Minister that the Conciliation Officer had called upon the other party to attend the conciliation proceedings when the lock-out took place. Does the Hon. Minister deny that fact? He has not stated whether that statement is true or not." 11-30 a.m.

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam :—" Sir, my answer was that there was no conciliation."

Sri K. P. Gopalan :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have got any general policy to tackle the unemployment problem created by such illegal closures by the management and if there is no such policy, will the Government be pleased to ban such illegal closures of the factory so as to prevent the unemployment of workers? "

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam :—" I would like to have notice, Sir, for answering this supplementary question."

Sri P. Ramamurthi :—" தொழிற்சாலையை மூடிவிட்டால் ஒரு மாதச் சம்பளமும், அதற்குமேல் ஒவ்வொரு வருஷ சர்வீசுக்கும் அரை மாதச் சம்பளம் வீதம் ' Gratuity-யும் ' கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற சட்டம் இருந்தபோதிலும்கூட, அதை முதலாளிகள் ' கொடுக்கமாட்டேன் ' என்று சொன்னால், அதற்கு ஒவ்வொரு தொழிலாளியும் தனித் தனியாக விண்ணப்பம் போடவேண்டுமென்றிருக்கக்கூடிய சட்டத்தை மாற்றி, சர்க்காரே நேரடியாக நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பதற்கான வகையில் அதைத் திருத்துவதற்கு சென்னை சர்க்கார் இந்திய சர்க்காருக்கு யோசனை சொல்ல முன்வருமா ? "

The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam :—" I shall examine that suggestion, Sir."

Irrigation schemes for South Kanara district.

* 1174 *Q.*—Sri T. Ananta Pai : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the irrigation schemes proposed to be taken up in South Kanara district in 1954–55; and

(*b*) the expected total capital outlay on them?